

An Essay
on

Trillium Peruvianum

Respectfully Submitted
To the Faculty of the
Homoeopathic Medical College

of Pennsylvania

on the
Thirtieth day of January

One thousand eight hundred & fifty three

by Dinton

of
New Jersey.

Trillium Cernuum.

Creeping three leaved Nightshade. Creeping
Trillium. Nodding Trillium.

Class Hexandria, Order Pygmaea - Linn

History.

This plant is common in the United States
Grows in damp rocky woods or grottoes
near rivulets, delighting in rich soils. Flowers
in May and June. It is variously known under
the vulgar names of Wake Robin, Bethroot,
Indian Balm &c, &c. There are nearly forty
species of it growing in this country all of
which possess similar properties. Trillium
Cernuum is the one principally used. It has
a faint slightly turpenthinaceous odor and a
peculiar aromatic taste. The root is the
part of the plant used. And yields its active
properties to water. In Allopathic practice

it has been considered useful as a tonic,
astringent, and antiseptic. It has been much
employed in hæmoptysis, hæmatemesis,
hæmaturia, uterine leucorrhœa, Cough, asthma
difficult breathing &c. &c. It is probable that
its employment as a remedial agent was
first introduced to the profession by the
Indians who it is well known it is
one of their most valuable and powerful
medicines. It is much used by the Indian
women after parturition. Boiled in milk
it has been used in diarrhoea and dysentery
and is highly recommended in conjunction
with Bugle weed for the cure of diabetes.
Externally, the root made into a poultice has
been recommended for old and indolent
ulcers. The dose as given by Allopathic physicians
is one drachm in hot water or from two
to four ounces of the strong infusion which
is the most common form of its administration.

Summary.

Mind and Disposition.

Melancholy with sadness. Repugnance to conversation. Ill humor, irritable and irritable disposition with a disposition to get angry, and offended at trifling things. Afraid he is a going to be sick; great anguish, agitation, and tossing, impossible to keep still.

Head.

Confused head. Attacks of vertigo with tottering, swimming in the head. Dizziness, chiefly on rising in the morning. Heaviness, when walking. Pull pain in the left temporal fossa increased by the least noise. Pain in the forehead which carries one to bend forward by which the pain is somewhat mitigated but return with all their acuity on assuming the erect position. Headach in

increased by the least noise, and when
walking or coughing. Head and face
red hot.

Eyes

Pain in the eyeballs; A sensation as though
they were too large and would fall from
their sockets. Blurring before the eyes; everything
looks of a bluish color. Severe burning in the
inner canthi, with profuse flow of tears.

Mouth

Greasy feeling over the tongue and gums.
Very offensive taste in the mouth, especially
on rising in the morning. Pungent sensa-
tion in the throat. Profuse flow of saliva.
Grumbling toothache and dull pain in
the face.

Taste and Appetite

Foul taste in the mouth. Insipid taste in

the mouth with absence of appetite.
Disgust for everything except cold water; a
continual inclination to drink ice water.

Gastric Symptoms.

Nausea with empty eructations; sickness,
with aching of the stomach, and desire to
vomit. Excruciating pain in the epigastrium
Sensation of contractions in the stomach.
Crampy pains, pinchings, gnawings with
fullness in the stomach. The pains in the
stomach manifest themselves mostly after
meals and in the morning.

Abdomen.

Swelling of the abdomen as in ascitis
accompanied with a tension as though
the whole contents of the abdomen were
drawn back against the vertebral column.
Flabby condition of the abdominal

pruritus with a sensation of gonorrhea;
a want of support in front accompanied
at intervals of a few moments with short
sharp, lancinating pains which extend from
before backwards, causing one to bend
forward. Much flatulency, with grumbling
in the abdomen.

Stools.

Diarrhoea with painful evacuations, slightly
tinged with blood. Constipation succeeded
by a thin, watery and very offensive diarrhoea

Genital Organs.

Sharp cutting pains in the urethra when
urinating. Itching of the genitals made
easier by scratching. Urine copious and of
a strong disagreeable odor.

Extremities.

Crampy pains in the muscles of the arms,
and calves of the legs. Pain in the left
shoulder extending down the arm into the
hand. Crampy pains in the fingers
when writing.

Larynx and Chest.

A sensation in the larynx as though there
were a crumb of bread or some foreign substance
loosened there which keeps up a continual
coughing. Palpitation of the heart with
great anxiety; difficult breathing as feeling
as though the chest were braced up which
prevents it from expanding.

Sleep.

Sleeplessness, rolling and tumbling in bed.
Sleep disturbed by frequent awakenings. Dreams
of fortitudes, shipwrecks &c, &c.

Fever.

Feverishness during the pains in the abdomen, on the subsidence of which a profuse perspiration broke out.

Skin.

Skin hot and dry, with itching and burning much worse by scratching.

General Symptoms.

General debility; feeling of weakness and weariness.

The Characteristic peculiarities.

The symptoms appear mostly at night and in the morning. Pains aggravated on motion and after eating.

Pains mitigated by exercise in the open air. Left side most affected.

Remarks.

Of course I do not offer the above as a full and complete pathogenesis of the drug, well knowing that to obtain such it should be proven upon individuals of both sexes, and of different ages and temperaments. But thinking they would be of more real value to the profession than any original ideas that I had to advance, I respectfully submit them to your kind consideration, hoping you may prize it as efficacious in removing like symptoms, as others have fully proven it to be.